

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
AND CONSERVATION

2705 Spurgin Road, Missoula, MT 59804-3199
(406) 542-4300 Telefax (406) 542-4217



BRIAN SCHWEITZER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MONTANA

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE (406) 444-2074
TELEFAX: (406) 444-2684

RECEIVED

SEP 26 2007

Ravalli County Commissioners

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September 24, 2007

Ravalli County Commissioners
214 S. 4th Street, Suite A
County Courthouse
Hamilton, MT 59840-2703

Dear Ravalli County Commissioners:

Please find enclosed a geographic place/name proposal that is currently before the U. S. Board on Geographic Names (BGN). This proposal pertains to a mountain in Ravalli County and would assign that feature the name Whe-lha-kleh-tseen Mountain, which is an Anglicization of Chief Victor's Salish name, meaning Many Horses. Currently, that feature may be locally referred to as Squaw Peak.

This proposal was proposed by James Steele, Jr. and submitted by Thompson R. Smith. Please refer to the accompanying map and other enclosures for additional information.

Please review this proposal and provide me with your opinion and any additional comments. It is our plan to provide a response to the BGN in early November 2007 and would like to include your comments with other information provided to the U. S. Board to assist them in determining approval/non-approval for this proposal.

Please feel free to contact me if further information is needed. Thanks for your help in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lowell Whitney".

Lowell Whitney
State Names Authority-DNRC
Phone: (406) 542-4256

Travers, Sue

From: Roger L Payne [rpayne@usgs.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, July 17, 2007 7:40 PM
To: Louis A Yost; Jane A Messenger; Kenneth B Fox; Jennifer E Runyon
Cc: bbewley@blm.gov; Chick Fagan; bkanalley@fs.fed.us; Whitney, Lowell
Subject: Fw: GNIS-WEB-FORM-Whe-lha-kleh-tseen-Mountain

----- Forwarded by Roger L Payne/GIO/USGS/DOI on 07/17/2007 09:39 PM -----

jamess@cskt.org

To:

07/09/2007 03:46 PM

cc:

Subject: GNIS-WEB-FORM-Whe-lha-kleh-tseen-Mountain

Proposed feature name: Whe-lha-kleh-tseen Mountain
State or equivalent where feature is located: Montana
Is feature located in other states?: no
County where feature is located: Ravalli
City, Town, Township where feature is located:
Administrative Area where feature is located: US Forest Service (Bitterroot NF)
Action requested: Name or Spelling Change

Why does feature need a name?:

Now called Squaw Peak. In 1999 Montana enacted House Bill 412 to replace all such offensive and derogatory placenames.

Feature type: Mountain

GNIS feature?: Unknown

Feature description:

About 10 miles east of Victor, MT, a peak on the west side of the Sapphire Range.

Name information:

Located in the heart of the traditional homeland of the Salish. The nearest town is Victor, named for the esteemed Salish head chief who in 1855 signed the Hellgate Treaty with U.S. officials. Whe-lha-kleh-tseen is an anglicization of Chief Victor's Salish name, meaning Many Horses.

Feature elevation: 6666

Mouth or center of feature:

Latitude: 46.26.04 N
longitude: 113.53.03 W

Source of feature

Latitude:
longitude:

Maps and other published sources using name:

7/31/2007

Other names used for feature:

Is proposed name in local usage?: No
Is there local opposition or conflict
regarding the proposed name: No

Additional information:

Organizations or individuals which support proposed name:

Tribal Council, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes,
P.O. Box 117, Pablo, MT 59855, 406-675-2700. Governing
body of tribal government of Flathead Indian Reservation.
In area for millennia. Montana House Bill 412 Advisory
Committee, Sen. Carol Juneau, Chair, PO Box 200500,
Helena, MT 59620, 406-338-5689, csjuneau@3rivers.net.
Sen. Juneau is from Browning, MT and represents a district
that encompasses the Blackfeet Indian Reservation. She
is a past president of Blackfeet Community College.
As member of the Montana House, she was a sponsor of
HB 412, which mandated replacing all placenames containing
the word "squaw." American Indian Caucus of the
Montana state legislature, PO Box 200400, Helena, MT
59620, 406-444-1634, fax 406-444-4362. Comprised of
Senators and Representatives from six of Montana's seven
reservations, including the Blackfeet Reservation (Sen.
Carol Juneau and Rep. Shannon Augare), the Crow Reservation
(Sen. Gerald Pease and Rep. Veronica Small-Eastman),
the Fort Peck Reservation (Sen. Frank Smith and Rep.
Margarett Campbell), the Northern Cheyenne Reservation
(Rep. Norma Bixby), the Flathead Reservation (Rep. Joey
Jayne), and the Rocky Boy Reservation (Rep. Jonathan
Windy Boy), as well as Rep. Douglas Cordier of Columbia
Falls.

Proposed By Name: James Steele, Jr.

Street: PO Box 117

City, State and Zip: Pablo, MT 59855

Email: james@cskt.org

Telephone: 406-275-2700

Fax Number: 406-275-2806

Title: Chairman, Tribal Council

Company or Agency: Confederated Salish & Kootenai

Submitted By Name: Thompson R. Smith

Street: PO Box 550

City, State and Zip: St. Ignatius, MT 59865

Email: thompsons@cskt.org

Telephone: 406-745-4572

Fax Number: 406-745-4573

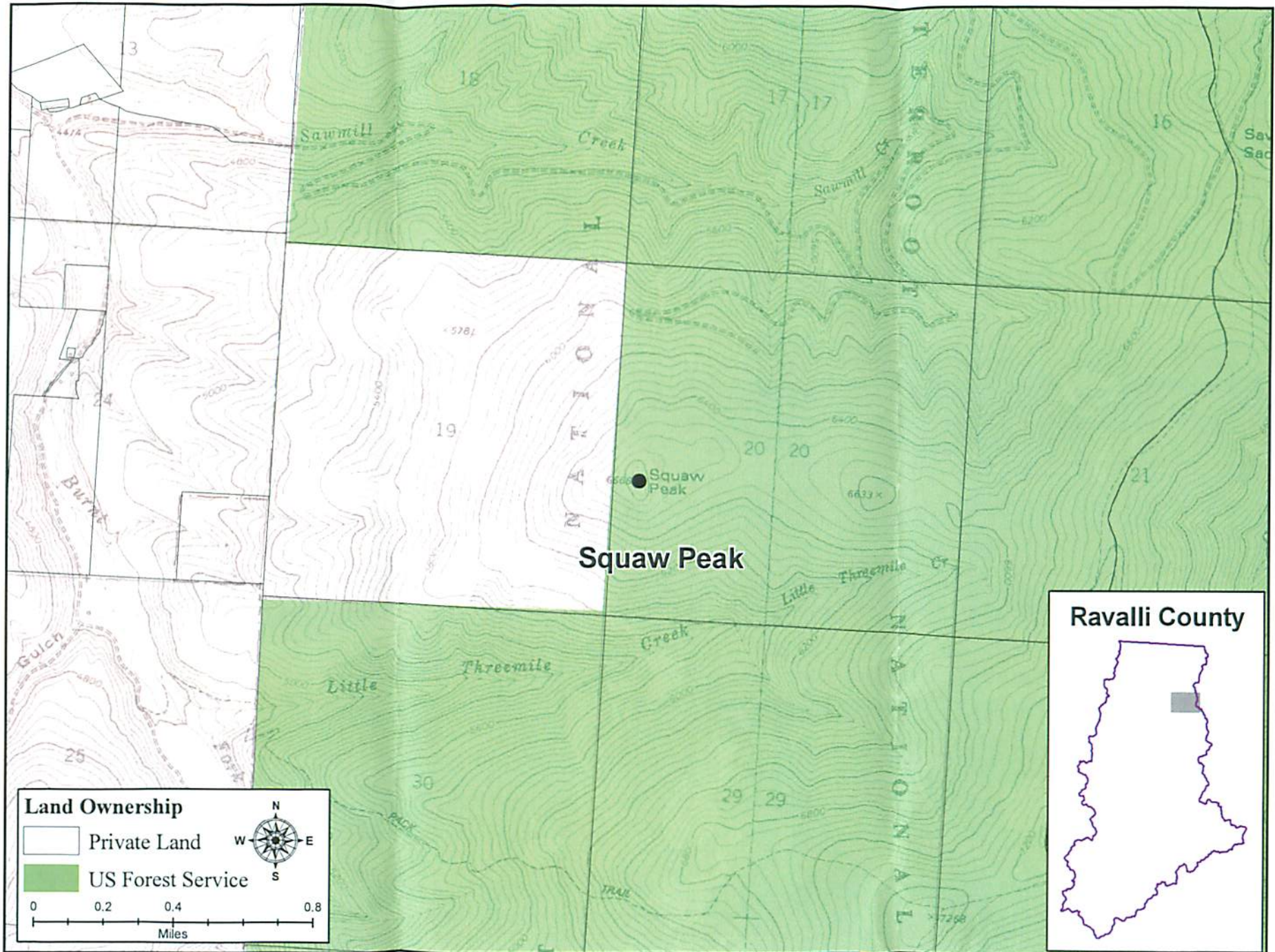
Title: Consultant

Company or Agency: Salish-Pend d'Oreille Culture

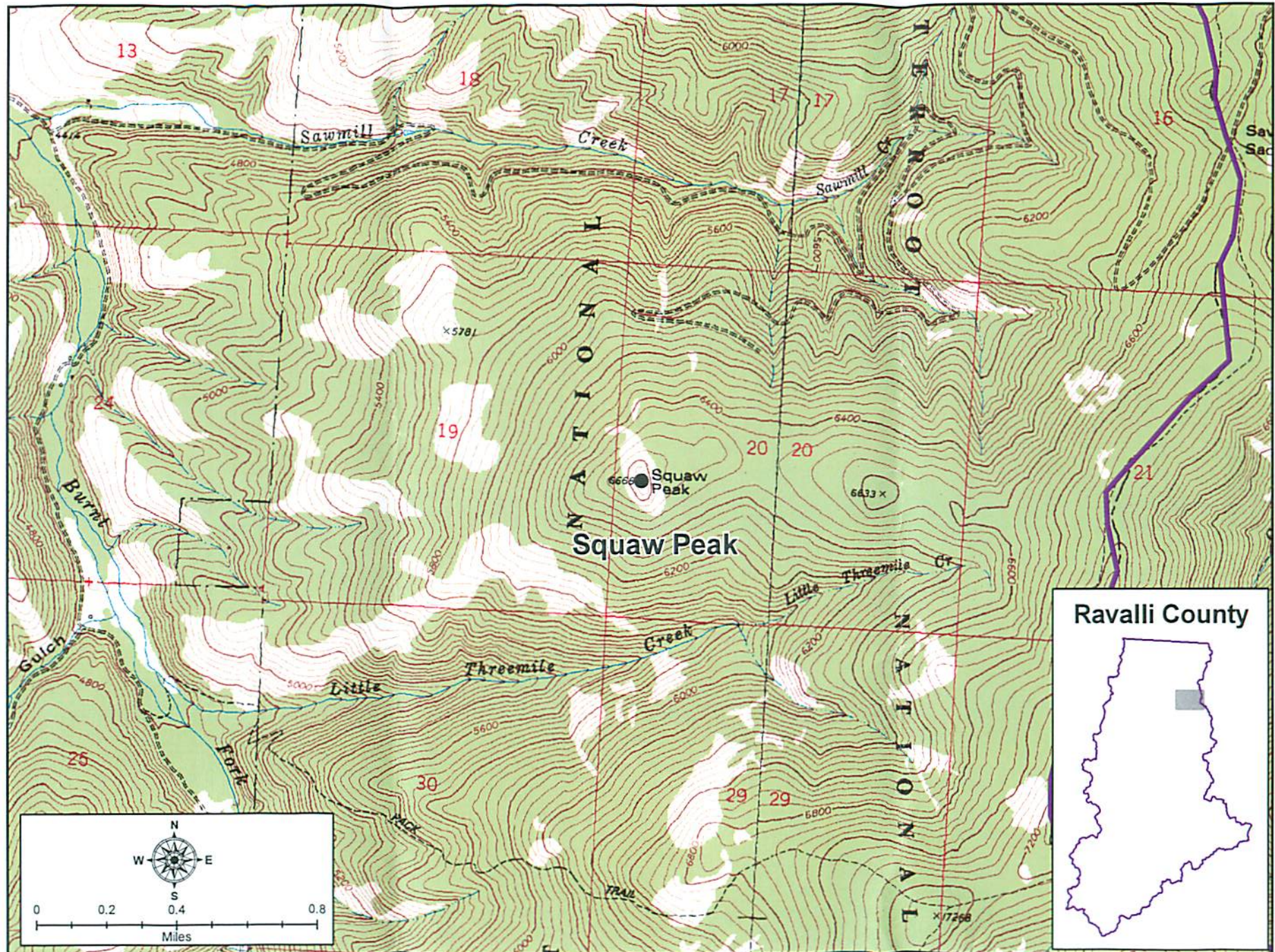
Do you have additional materials to submit?: Yes

Domestic Geographic Name Change Request

Change Squaw Peak (Ravalli County) to Whe-lha-kleh-tseen Mountain



Domestic Geographic Name Change Request
Change Squaw Peak (Ravalli County) to Whe-Iha-kleh-tseen Mountain



To: Lowell Whitney, Montana Geographic Names Advisor
DNRC
2705 Spurgin Road
Missoula, MT 59804

From: _____ County Commissioners

RE: Geographic Naming Proposal for _____

Position on geographic naming proposal:

- ☐ **Not Opposed** to Name Proposal (documentation optional)
- ☐ **Opposed** to Name Proposal (please document)
- ☐ **Support** Name Proposal (please document)

Commissioner signatures:

Signature	Printed Name	Title	Date
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Signature	Printed Name	Title	Date
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Signature	Printed Name	Title	Date
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